

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-65: Canceled

66. (Currently Amended) A method for receiving e-mails, the method comprising:

receiving a plurality of e-mails, including a first e-mail and a second e-mail;

for at least the first e-mail, performing steps comprising:

separating a first e-mail header from a first e-mail message body;

storing said first e-mail message body in a first e-mail message body field;

separating information contained in said first e-mail header into a plurality of first e-mail header information items;

storing information corresponding to said plurality of first e-mail header information items ~~in~~ with a plurality of corresponding header information fields;

creating a link between (i) information provided with at least ~~one~~ a first of said plurality of first e-mail header information fields, (ii) information provided with at least a second of said plurality of first e-mail header information fields; and (iii) the first e-mail message body stored in a first e-mail message body field; and

storing linking information sufficient to identify said link between said information at least one information provided with said first of said plurality of first e-mail header information field ~~fields~~, information provided with ~~said~~ at least first ~~said second of said plurality of first e-mail second~~ header information ~~field~~ fields, and at least a portion of the first e-mail message body; ~~field~~;

wherein the plurality of header information fields include at least all of the fields in a group consisting of a recipient field, a sender field, and a copied

recipient field, ~~and a message subject field;~~

wherein the method further includes performing, for at least the second e-mail, steps comprising:

separating a second e-mail header from a second e-mail message body;

separating information contained in said second e-mail header into a plurality of second e-mail header information items;

comparing information provided with at least one of the plurality of second e-mail header information items with information stored with a plurality of header information fields of one or more other e-mails that have previously been received, including information stored with at least one of said first of or said second of the plurality of first e-mail header information fields; and

if the compared information matches information stored with one of said first of or said second of the plurality of first e-mail header information fields, linking the second e-mail message body with the matching information stored with one of said first of or said second of the plurality of first e-mail header information fields.

67. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 66 wherein said at least first e-mail header information field, said at least first e-mail second header information fields, and said linking information are provided in one or more tables.

68. (Canceled)

69. (Cancel)

70. (New) The method of claim 66, wherein the first e-mail message body and the second e-mail message body include one or more attachments.

71. (New) The method of claim 66, wherein all of the fields of the group also include a message subject field.

72. (New) The method of claim 66,
wherein the method includes storing information corresponding to at least some of said plurality of second e-mail header information items with the plurality of corresponding header information fields;

wherein receiving a plurality of e-mails includes receiving a third e-mail, and
wherein the method further comprises performing, for the third e-mail, steps comprising:

separating a third e-mail header from a third e-mail message body;

separating the information contained in said third e-mail header into a plurality of third e-mail header information items;

comparing information provided with at least one of the plurality of third e-mail header information items with information stored with a plurality of header information fields of one or more other e-mails that have previously been received, including information stored with at least one of said first of or said second of the plurality of the first e-mail header information fields; and

determining that the compared information does not match information stored with at least one of said first of or said second of the plurality of first e-mail header information fields; and

identifying the third e-mail as spam, wherein identifying the third e-mail as spam

is performed based at least in part on determining that the compared information does not match information stored with at least one of said first of or said second of the plurality of first e-mail header information field.

73. (New) A method for receiving e-mails, the method comprising:

receiving a plurality of e-mails, including a first e-mail and a second e-mail;

for at least the first e-mail, performing steps comprising:

separating a first e-mail header from a first e-mail message body;

storing said first e-mail message body in a first e-mail message body field;

separating information contained in said first e-mail header into a plurality of first e-mail header information items;

storing information corresponding to said plurality of first e-mail header information items with a plurality of corresponding header information fields;

creating a link between (i) information provided with at least a first of said plurality of first e-mail header information fields, (ii) information provided with at least a second of said plurality of first e-mail header information fields; and (iii) the first e-mail message body stored in a first e-mail message body field; and

storing linking information sufficient to identify said link between said information provided with said first of said plurality of first e-mail header information fields, information provided with at least said second of said plurality of first e-mail header information fields, and at least a portion of the first e-mail message body; wherein the plurality of header information fields include at least all of the fields in a group consisting of a recipient field, a sender field, and a

copied recipient field;

wherein the method further includes performing, for at least the second e-mail, steps comprising:

- separating a second e-mail header from a second e-mail message body;
- storing said second e-mail message body in a second e-mail message body field;
- separating the information contained in said second e-mail header into a plurality of second e-mail header information items;
- comparing at least one of (i) information contained with at least one of the plurality of second e-mail header information items with information stored with a plurality of header information fields of one or more other e-mails that have previously been received, including information stored with at least one of said first of or said second of the plurality of first e-mail header information fields, or (ii) at least a portion of the second e-mail message body with at least a portion of the first e-mail message body;
- and
- responsive to the compared information matching information stored with one of said first of or said second of the plurality of first e-mail header information fields, linking the second e-mail message body with the matching information stored with one of said first of or said second of the plurality of first e-mail header information fields;
- responsive to the at least portion of the second e-mail message body matching with at least the portion of the at least portion of the first e-mail message body, linking the second e-mail message body with one of said first of or said second of the plurality of first e-mail header information fields.

74. (New) The method of claim 73, wherein the first e-mail message body and the second e-mail message body include one or more attachments.
75. (New) The method of claim 73, wherein all of the fields of the group also include a message subject field.
76. (New) The method of claim 73,
wherein the method includes storing information corresponding to at least some of said plurality of second e-mail header information items with the plurality of corresponding header information fields;
wherein receiving a plurality of e-mails includes receiving a third e-mail, and
wherein the method further comprises performing, for the third e-mail, steps comprising:
separating a third e-mail header from a third e-mail message body;
separating the information contained in said third e-mail header into a plurality of third e-mail header information items;
comparing information provided with at least one of the plurality of third e-mail header information items with information stored with a plurality of header information fields of one or more other e-mails that have previously been received, including information stored with at least one of said first of or said second of the plurality of first e-mail header information fields; and
determining that the compared information does not match information stored with at least one of said first of or said second of the plurality of first e-mail header

information fields; and

identifying the third e-mail as spam, wherein identifying the third e-mail as spam is performed based at least in part on determining that the compared information does not match information stored with at least one of said first of or said second of the plurality of first e-mail header information field.